

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 28, page 25 of the substitute specification filed March 17, 2008, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Fibroblast cells of type NIH 3T3 are cultured at a density of 3×10^4 cells per cm^2 in DMEM culture medium supplemented with 10% of foetal calf serum. After 24 hours of incubation at 37°C in an atmosphere containing 7 % of CO_2 , the culture medium is replaced by DMEM which does not contain foetal calf serum. Twenty-four hours afterwards, the HARP molecule (4 nM) in the presence or absence of the HARP peptides ~~16-48~~ 16-39 or 65-97 of respective sequences SEQ ID NOS: 2 and 3 at a concentration ranging from 0.1 to 10 μM is added over 18 hours. After this period of incubation, 0.5 μCi of [*methyl*- ^3H]thymidine is added and 6 hours afterwards the cells are fixed by a 10% solution of trichloroacetic acid. The radioactivity incorporated by the cells is then counted by liquid scintillation after having effected a cell lysis with a solution of sodium hydroxide at a concentration of 0.1 N.--